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Patent
Attorney Docket No. 13119-1-1
#4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of)
DUNMIRE) Examiner: Not Assigned
Serial No. 07/650,799) Art Unit No. 347
Filed: February 5, 1991)
For: N-SHAPED BACKFLOW) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
PREVENTOR) STATEMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101
June 7, 1991

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and further in
accord with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56,
Applicants herewith provide copies of the following.

U.S. Patent 2,224,290 issued December 10, 1940 to
Corbin, jr. discloses a valve locking and releasing device in
which inflow and outflow are offset by 90°.

U.S. Patent 3,051,151 issued August 28, 1962 to Helwig
discloses a crankcase ventilator with parallel but offset inflow
and outflow.

A number of references relate to valving devices with
in-line flow, including:

U.S. Patent 2,389,413 issued November 20, 1945 to
Carlton; U.S. Patent 2,586,942 issued February 26, 1952 to Grove;
U.S. Patent 4,276,905 issued July 7, 1981 to Lourdeaux; U.S.
Patent 4,284,097 issued August 18, 1981 to Becker, et al; U.S.
Patent 4,333,495 issued June 8, 1982 to Griswold, et al; and U.S.
Patent 4,802,507 issued February 7, 1989 to Willson.

The following references were cited in the parent application (U.S. 4,989,635).

U.S. Patent 510,503 issued December 12, 1893 to Falkinburg.

U.S. Patent 825,499 issued July 10, 1906 to Sturtevant.

U.S. Patent 980,188 issued January 3, 1911 to Blauvelt.

U.S. Patent 1,399,791 issued December, 1921 to Pierson.

U.S. Patent 1,871,536 issued August, 1932 to Le Bus.

U.S. Patent 2,064,247 issued December, 1936 to Evans.

U.S. Patent 2,515,425 issued July, 1950 to Restemeier.

U.S. Patent 2,556,277 issued June, 1951 to Hill, et al.

U.S. Patent 2,827,921 issued March 25, 1958 to Sherman.

U.S. Patent 3,026,902 issued March, 1962 to Ruhl, jr.

U.S. Patent 3,789,874 issued February 5, 1974 to Hills.

U.S. Patent 3,990,471 issued November 9, 1976 to Schutzer, et al.

U.S. Patent 4,067,356 issued January 10, 1978 to Kruez.

U.S. Patent 4,109,819 issued August 29, 1978 to Kushman, et al.

U.S. Patent 4,457,333 issued July 3, 1984 to Sharp.

U.S. Patent 4,552,174 issued November, 1985 to Carl, et al.

U.S. Patent 4,595,032 issued June, 1986 to Banks.

"Backflow Prevention Assemblies," a brochure of FEBCO (division of CMB Industires), pp. 1, 8-16 and 21, which shows check valves for a backflow preventor of previous design.

"Installation, Maintenance and Parts Manual for Backflow Prevention Assemblies," Ames Co., Inc., pp. 7-8 and 12, which shows a check valve with a knuckle joint assembly.

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"Model RP-1 Backflow Preventor," Clayton Automatic Valves, pp. 88-89, which shows a toggle-lever check valve.

"Installation/Operation/Maintenance" manual, Clayton Automatic Valves, pp. 63-79, which shows backflow preventors with toggle levers and with poppet-type check valves.

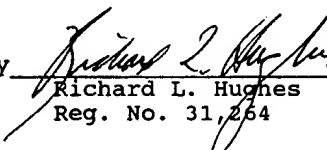
For the convenience of the Examiner, the enclosed items are listed on attached form PTO-1449.

Submission of the above information is not intended as an admission that any item is citable under the statutes or rules to support a rejection, or that those skilled in the art would refer to or recognize the pertinence of any reference without the benefit of hindsight, nor should an inference be drawn as to the pertinence of the references based on the order in which they are presented. Although references have been at least briefly reviewed, the above description of perceived pertinence is not intended as an assurance that there is no additional or greater pertinence to any reference which may have been overlooked.

Submission of this statement should not be taken as an indication that a search has been conducted, or that no better art exists.

Respectfully submitted,

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND

By 
Richard L. Hughes
Reg. No. 31,264

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Enclosures